

In the Claims

Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-21. (Canceled).

22. (Currently Amended) A binder comprising:

a first cover;

a second cover pivotally coupled to said first cover, both of said covers being generally flat and planar, said first cover including an opening and having a first side and a second side; and

a pocket coupled to said first cover and generally received in said opening, said pocket including a first panel and a second panel defining a pocket cavity therebetween, said first panel being larger than said opening and at least portions or tabs of rear panel extending outwardly beyond said opening ;

a first releasable fastening mechanism ~~positioned on or between said first panel and said first cover~~ to releasably join said first panel and said first cover; and

a second releasable fastening mechanism ~~positioned on or between said second panel and said first cover~~ to releasably join said second panel and said first cover.

23. (Original) The binder of claim 22 wherein said pocket can be accessed from both said first and second sides of said first cover.

24. (Original) The binder of claim 23 wherein said pocket includes a pocket cavity which can be accessed from both said first and second sides of said first cover.

25. (Original) The binder of claim 24 wherein said first cover defines a plane, and wherein said first side is located on one side of said plane and said second side is located on an opposite side of said plane, and wherein said pocket cavity can be accessed from said first side

without intersecting said plane, and wherein said pocket cavity can be accessed from said second side without intersecting said plane.

26-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The binder of claim 22 wherein said first and second panels are each independently pivotally coupled to said first cover.

32. (Previously Presented) The binder of claim 22 wherein said first panel is directly releasably attachable to said first side of said first cover and said second panel is directly releasably attachable to said second side of said first cover.

33. (Previously Presented) A method for manipulating a binder comprising the steps of:
providing a binder having a first generally planar component, a second generally planar component pivotally coupled to said first planar component, both of said planar components being generally flat and planar and having a first and second opposite sides thereof, and a pocket coupled to said first planar component, said pocket including a front panel and a rear panel defining a pocket cavity therebetween, wherein each panel is independently pivotable relative to the other;
accessing said pocket from said first side of said first planar component; and
accessing said pocket from said second side of said first planar component,
wherein said first planar component defines a plane, and wherein said first side of said first planar component is located on one side of said plane and said second side of said first planar component is located on an opposite side of said plane, and wherein said first accessing step includes accessing said pocket from said first side without intersecting said plane, and wherein said second accessing step includes accessing said pocket from said second side without intersecting said plane;
wherein said first planar component includes an opening and said pocket is positioned in said opening, and
wherein said first side of said first cover is an inner side and said second side of said first cover is an outer side, and wherein said rear panel is generally positioned on said inner surface of

said first planar component, and said front panel is positioned on said outer side of said first planar component, and
wherein said rear panel includes a protruding portion that protrudes outwardly beyond said opening to prevent said rear panel from being pulled through said opening.

34-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the binder of said providing step is independently pivotable relative to the other such that one panel can be pivoted without the other panel pivoting.

46. (New). The binder of claim 22, wherein said pocket may be opened from either of said first and second sides by releasing only one of said first and second releasable fastening mechanisms.

47. (New). The binder of claim 22, wherein said rear panel has a size greater than said opening.

48. (New). The binder of claim 22, wherein said first releasable fastening mechanism is positioned on or between said first panel and said first cover.

49. (New). The binder of claim 22, wherein said second releasable fastening mechanism is positioned on or between said second panel and said first cover.

50. (New). The binder of claim 22, wherein said portions or tabs of said rear panel prevent said rear panel from being pulled through the opening.